The Honorable Mikhail Gorbachev

Nobel Prize for Peace

ONE OF THE MOST influential statesmen of the 20TH century, Mikhail Gorbachev brought democracy to Russia for the first time in her long history. He began life in a small farming village, where one-third of the residents died in the 1930s during a famine brought on by Stalin's agricultural policies. During his six years as leader of the Soviet Union, Gorbachev carried off a delicate balancing act, forcing reforms on a recalcitrant old guard while containing demands for more radical change.

The watchwords of Gorbachev's reforms, "glasnost" and "perestroika," (openness and restructuring) became known throughout the world. For the first time since the revolution of 1917, Gorbachev eliminated press censorship, lifted travel bans, and permitted competitive elections and the formation of independent political parties. He ended a ruinous arms race with the United States, and withdrew Soviet forces from Afghanistan and from Central Europe, effectively ending the Cold War division of the continent. These historic actions were honored with the Nobel Peace Prize in 1990.

Since resigning the Presidency of the Soviet Union in 1991, Gorbachev has devoted himself to the Foundation for Social, Economic and Political Research, also known as the Gorbachev Foundation.

① MiKhail Gorbachev

(I) Youth/Educ.

① Would you tell us something about your early life, asking you to remember,
– what was life like, growing up in a farming village in Russia in the 1930's?
– how wud you describe your upbringing, your boyhood?
② peasant parents, farm work + school work
③ farm collectivazation
④ Nazi invasion / WWII
⑤ @ 18, the Order of the Red Banner
⑥ Law School, low prestige + unconventional at time
III ⑦ At Moscow St. U., as a college student, u have been described as
– a young Communist party activist, a 'true believer' =
– what were your beliefs / what did u believe in?
– what were your beliefs changed over the past 50 years?
(fm: III: how have your beliefs changed over the past 50 years?
– Tarzan movies? (anything of the West, of America that was accepted to)

(II) Career

① you worked your way up the ranks of the Young Communist League. what led you in this direction?
– how do you account for your success at this early stage of ur career? what were the challenges/frustrations?
② when did you know you wanted to be in govt?
– why?
③ At age 47 u were one of 20 top Soviet leaders
at 49, a member of leadership elite, the politburo
– how do explain your success, or rise to power?
– what personal attributes do u think made your career possible?
– wud you have had to do it differently in the West, in the U.S. say? wud you have been successful in

② Gorbachev

(II) Career cont.

④ Disappointments/failure (ex, agricultural policy): how dealt with that? with resistance from vested interests?
II ⑤ How affected by the official disclosures of Stalin's crimes + excesses?
– how do you hold onto your faith + confidence, in the face of such revelations/failures of the system?
⑥ Bef. becoming pres. of the Soviet Union (in 1986), how long had you known/felt that change, reform was necessary?
– Did you know the risk you were taking?
– Cud you have done otherwise?
⑦ What made you open to reform, to glasnost + to perestroika?
⑧ What was [redacted] in the mid-late 1980's – in the USSR, in E. Europe, in China – that created so much ferment + unrest + calls for reform?
⑨ In the spring of 1989, you arrived in Beijing as a hero to hundreds of thousands Chinese demonstrators calling for change + reform – what were you thinking at that time?
– what did you say to China's leaders?
⑩ As a world leader, a national leader, what must you bring to a negotiating table to be successful? (even if ur facing an American president who views you as the leader of "an evil empire"?)

③ Gorbachev

(III) Reflections

① How wud u describe urself as a leader, as a politician?
– much has been written about ur style, ur openness ur spontaneity: you rep. for most of us a new-style Soviet politician
– you broke a stereotype, w/an almost western style.
② What hv u learned is a very big question, taking in a good deal of the 20th Century's struggle for political + economic progress, but what's ur answer?
– were your ideals realistic, or utopian?
– cud they be realized?
– is there room for idealism in the political arena, national or international?
③ What did it mean to you to win the Nobel Peace Prize?
④ How do you want to be remembered?
And your place in history?
⑤ Extraordinary personal journey – what wud you change?
– like to do over again?

2A How have your beliefs changed over the years?

II/III Bef. becoming pres. of USSR in 1986, how long had u known the change, reform was necessary?
Did you know the risks u were taking w/ur program of reform?
Could u've done otherwise?

II/III What made you open to reform, to change, to glasnost & perestroika?
How do u cope w/resistance – w/political, econ., social orthodoxy, w/entrenched interest standing in the way of reform?

II/III What was going on/happening/taking place in the world of mid to late 1980's – not only in the USSR but in E. Europe, in China – that created urgent call for change + reform?

II/III In the spring of 1989, in the midst of change in the USSR, u went to Beijing – u arrived almost as a hero to hundreds & thousands of Chinese desirous for reform in their own country. What were u thinking as u saw those mass demonstrations in the streets of Beijing?
– what did u say to Chinese leaders at the time?

II/III As a world leader/as the leader of ur own country, what must you bring to a negotiating table to be successful (esp. if facing an American president who, like Ronald Reagan, had called ur regime "an evil empire")?

III What he u learned is a very big question – taking in a good deal of the 20th century's struggle for political, economic + social progress – was ur ideas, the communist ideal, ever possible? (and it ever be realized?)

III What did it mean to you to win the Nobel Peace Prize?

II/III How would u describe urself as a politician, a leader? Much has been written about ur style, as being not typical, or stereotypical, of the communist style – but in some ways at least, more Western, American in ur openness, ur spontaneity. How do u account for it? Perh. for many of us, at least, a new style Soviet politician.

III How do u want to be remembered? Ur place in history?

II At age 47, u were one of the top 20 Soviet leaders. At 49, a member of the ruling elite, the Politburo. How do u explain ur success, ur rise to power? What personal attributes do u think made ur career possible? Was it be-

Skin fair

different is the belief, say in the U.S.? What ~~makes~~ have been successful in the U.S. — or began in the USSR?

II/III During the years of his rise to power, certainly he had his failures as well as his successes — is a question of ~~of~~ of — how has a deal of failure? Does it harden him? How does he control it?

I Having nothing to do w/ a cult of personality, I assure you, we're hoping he will tell us something about his personal life, asking him & remember — for ex, what was life like, growing up in a farming village, pop. 3000, in So. Russia? Who did his parents do? Was he a farm boy, working the fields? Siblings? How would he describe his life?

I Who most influenced him? (His heroes?) (Lenin? Stalin? Jefferson?)
What were the important events of his youth & how were he affected by them?
— collectivization in the countryside
— Nazi invasion of WWII

I Was he a good student? For. courses? For. books?
Why law school — a choice that the time hardly seemed conducive?
What was life like @ Moscow U.?

I/II When did he know he wanted to be in govt.? Why?

He has been described, in his college days, as a young Communist party activist, a "true believer" — what were his beliefs, what did he believe in?

III How her his beliefs changed over the years?

I/II You worked his way up thru the rank of the ~~Communist Youth League~~ (Young Communist League) — what led him in the direction? ~~He~~ How do he account for his success/steady rise to leadership?

II/III How affected by the official reports of Stalin's crimes & excesses?

Queen Noor of Jordan
(Lisa Halaby) (married King Hussein in 1978)

I. Youth/educ

1. Bn Los Angeles, 1951
2. Attended schools in LA, Wash. DC, NYC, Concord Acad (Mass.)
3. Father Najeeb Halaby, president Pan Am, wealthy Arab-American family
4. Princeton: member of first co-ed freshman class
   — B.A., Architecture & Urban Planning, 1974
5. Teen-ager during the turbulent 60's

II. Career

1. Intl. urban planning projects — incl. for Arab Air University in Jordan + position w/ Royal Jordanian Airline
2. Married Jordan's King Hussein, 1978 (mother of 4 & 2 from King's ex)
3. thru good works, became an intl. figure in own right
   - cultural + political bridge
   - women
   - environment
   - education
   - campaign to ban land mines
   - agricultural issues

III. Reflection

1. of Arab heritage, but an American
   — how do you gain acceptance
   — how do you advance issues of women, of political openness in a trad. monarchy, another political + religious culture

speaks 3 languages — sports, gardening, photography

Ben Noor

② how adapt to being royalty, a queen?
③ what did it take for you to become comfortable in the role, w/ the responsibility?

King Abdullah of Jordan

I

1. bn 1962, Amman Jordan, eldest son of King Hussein.
2. began education @ the Islamic Educational College in Amman-
3. but sent abroad to study @ early age
   - St. Edmund's School, England
   - finish high school @ private schools in U.S.
4. Oxford
   Georgetown > Intl. Affairs
5. Sandhurst Military Academy, England
   - GB army in Germany + Britain

II

A. How do you prepare to be King?

1. groomed to be a leader, if not a King
   - diplomacy
   - military (Jordanian special forces + Air force)
2. [did not expect to be King]
   - was it your destiny to be King, ordained by birth?
   - did you have a choice?
3. How did u learn you would be your father's successor? what was ur reaction?

~~4. If not King, what would u have wanted to be, to do?~~

~~B. how to you prepare to be King?~~

III

1. how were you affected by spending so much time, & having been mostly educated, abroad?
   - an advantage, or disadvantage?
2. ever wish you cud shed the burdens of being King of the Hashemites?
3. if not King, what would u have wanted to do w/ur life?
4. how much power, influence does a King have to bring about change — in Jordan, in the region?

Benazir Bhutto: PM of Pakistan 1988→1990
1993→1996
1st women to become head of govt. in a Moslem country – @ 35

I Youth/Educ

1. Bn, Karachi, 1953
2. landowning family prominent in politics
3. early life of privilege/upper class
   - tutored by an English governess
4. @ 16, to US + Radcliffe/Harvard
   → degree in government, 1973
5. Oxford: politics, philosophy + economics

What do we glean in regard to [illegible] – to being – to choose? – to be? choose of? your fate

II Career

1. father, a Pakistani leader, imprisoned in 1977 + executed by the military govt. of Gen. Zia
2. founded Pakistan People's Party (1977)
   Mvt. for restoration of Demo (1981)
3. one brother died mysteriously in 1985;
4. arrested + detained on numerous occasions for opposing regime of Gen. Zia in 1970's - 1980's
5. for hr lived in exile, returned to Pakistan triumphant; been PM twice; been harshly criticized, hr last power, hr been ousted & controversial
6. husband in jail on corruption charges (since 1996)
7. opposed by Islamic fundamentalists
   accused of being left wing cuz of social programs

[generals referred to her as "that girl"]
[a phoenix who keeps rising from the ashes] → a long running political drama—

David Trimble, Nobel Peace Prize 1998,
1st minister of Northern Ireland, +
leader of Ulster Unionist Party
(mainly Protestant)

(I) ~~Youth~~/Education

(1) Bn. in Bangor, a seaside resort in County Down
(2) father a junior civil servant
mother from family whose building business failed

(II) Career — long time law professor

(1) a law lecturer @ Queen's University, Belfast
(2) something of a political outsider, not of the Anglo-Irish "squirearchy"
(3) ~~one of a hard~~ unionist-liner — then joined the mainstream Ulster Unionist Party (1978) — elected to MP (1990)
(4) Surprise winner in race for party leadership (1995)
— w/support of rank-file
(5) Backed peace efforts + Good Friday agreement despite opposition of more than half his parliamentary colleagues = to share power in a new assembly it would govern No. Ireland.
— a gamble it pd. off re: referendum got 71% support including 55% of Protestants.
(6) But disarmament issue has not been resolved — no peace yet.
(7) what explains the ability to lead/to negotiate/to move a political process > peaceful solutions?

(III) (1) Likes opera — + Elvis Presley (2) ur reaction to being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize?

John Hume: Nobel Peace Prize, shared w/ David Trimble (1998)

- head of (Northern) Ireland's Social Democratic + Labor Party (SDLP), + member of the European Parliament.

I Youth/Educ

① started public life in the 1960's - heavily influenced by Martin Luther King + his commitment to non-violence

② - + by John F. Kennedy, re: equality in society.

II Career

① leadership: historic meetings w/ Gerry Adams leading to 1993 Joint Declaration by Britain + Ireland, and 1994 cease-fire by IRA + Ulster paramilitaries
= foundation of 1998 Good Friday Peace Agreement.

② Conflict Resolution
- need to respect differences, respect diversity
- whether Ireland, or Cyprus, or Yugoslavia, or Tibet
- solution cannot be victory of one over another
- need for non-violence

III What was ur reaction to being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize?

Sally Ride, astronaut

I
1) b. Encino CA 1951
2) Westlake School for Girls, L.A.
- tennis scholarship; considered tennis career.
3) Swarthmore College dropout - to try pro-tennis but decided she wasn't good enough.
4) Stanford BA, PhD, Physics - English (BA) (= don't often go together)
5) looking for post-doc in Astrophysics in 1977 →

II
1) joined NASA: more than 8-thousand men - women applied to space program. 35 accepted; 6 women.
- saw NASA ad for applications in Stanford Daily.
2) 1983, 1st American woman in space (Challenger Mission) of 1984, flew a 2nd Challenger Mission = 343 hrs. of space flight
- preparing for 3rd mission when Challenger exploded in 1986.
3) became advocate for improved science education + to support young women in fields of math-science + technology. Center for Intl. Security + Arms Control. (John Lewis?)
4) Stanford: professor of physics
5) UCSD: professor of physics

III
1) "need to impress upon girls that engineering is curiosity, it's common sense, it's cool stuff.
- middle school is critical when maybe it's not cool to excel in math or be a rocket scientist
= what does it take to be a rocket scientist?
an astronaut?
→ a writer (?) (of several books aimed at the young)

2) why do you think you were selected for the astronaut program?

(I) Not attacking a power drama for achievement

(1) Edward Albee, playwright 6/2/05

① adopted @ birth by wealthy theatrical family: Reed - Albee theater chain

② childhood: spoiled, plump, precocious, and unhappy.
— servants, nannies, chauffered limos, and alienation

③ early intro to theater, + writing (poem @ age 8; literary efforts thru teens)
— but wanted to be a composer.

④ Educates/schooling:
— @ 11 boarding school, Lawrenceville: expelled
— Valley Forge Military Academy: expelled
— choates, pursued literary interests
— Trinity College: quit after 3 semesters

⑤ @ age 20, left home after family argument →

⑥ Greenwich Village, NYC: for ten years, used stipend from grandmother + variety of jobs to support himself:
— office boy, salesman, hotel barman, Western Union messenger (his favorite), 1955-58.

⑦ And in 3 weeks, wrote The Zoo Story + his career was launched: NYC 1960.

⑧ Influences: "liberated" by work of Beckett + Ionesco + Jean Genet; play of O'Neil + Williams.
— at age 30, sat down @ his kitchen table + in 3 weeks wrote "The Zoo Story," a one act play about two

(2) Albee 6/2/05

I

(8) as a child, a young man, what differences left a lasting impression on you (affected your life)?

II III (9) What persuaded you, or compelled you, to become a playwright?

(1) "Who's afraid of Virginia Woolf" – 1962.
– "probably the finest play ever written by an american"
– Broadway success • recognition (the cover of Newsweek)

(2) A Delicate Balance, 1966: (2) of three Pulitzer Prizes

II III (3) what do u write about? What's important to you?

II III (4) how do u go about it, writing a play?

III (5) what do u feel a writer's purpose be?

(6) ~~what to have right to do so~~, what is ur rel. to the audience – how would u like an audience to respond?

II III (7) • critics?

II III (8) how do u deal w/ (controversy, criticism), w/ (criticism, controversy)?

III (9) • with the career swings it go w/ it?

III (10) how would u describe the writer's life?
– the writer's mission/responsibility?

III (11) what does it take to be a writer?

(12) "avant-garde," "theater of the absurd" – do these labels tell us anything about you or about ur work?

(3) Albee, 6/2/05

II - III

(13) which of all ur plays is most impt. to yr?

II (14) what are the most impt. themes in

III ur work
- if you had to define/explain the most impt. message of ur work, what would it be?

★ (15) what persuaded you, or compelled you, to become a playwright? ★

(16) in the end, how do u reach people? how do u touch an audience?

II (17) how impt. is it to have the courage of ur convictions
- to find ur own voice & be true to it?
- to go it alone if you have to?

III (18) three Pulitzer Prizes, and yr image of that kind of success
- how impt is that to you?
- how do yr measure success/achievement?

Justice Anthony Kennedy
6/3/05

were u always a lawyer in training?

(1) born + raised in Sacramento (19%)
(2) public high school / Stanford / Harvard Law
(3) lawyer in SF
(4) 1963: when father died, took over his Sacramento practice
(5) worked w/ Ed Meese + Reagan adm (gov.)
(6) 1975: Ford appts to federal appellate court: youngest appellate judge in the country, 3rd youngest in history.
(7) 1988: Reagan (pres) 3rd choice for Supreme Court after Bork + Ginsburg.
(8) a teacher as well as/as much as a jurist, w/ world-wide interests incl China
(9) Trial of Hamlet
Speech dressed as Jane Madison
(10) of all the awards, which has meant the most to you?
(11) how important is the right personality for getting things done?
(12) ability to build bridges, to form coalitions + majorities — resp of a conservative but centrist, moderate position
(13) what has u learned abt politics?
(14) tough decisions u've had to make?
(15) most important lessons learned?
- flag burning
- abortion
- prayers in school

(2) Gore Vidal

II

3) as novelist of historical + historical works, as essayist/commentator — hv. not shied from controversy

4) 1960's, moved to Italy

5) also a political activist, + candidate

1960: cand. for Congress in upstate N.Y. (rec. most votes of any Dem. in 30 years + more than JFK)

1982: CA. dem primary for U.S. Senate (vs. Jerry Brown)

Pt is not to recount ur many works and/or achievements but how + why yu did it.

hv not been shy about making ur views known — + hv not shied from controversy

childhood — what wud I call it?

(1) Gore Vidal

I

1) bn 1925 @ West Point
— father, aeronautics instructor; an aviation pioneer; member of FDR administration.

2) raised in Wash. DC at home of grandfather, sen. Thomas Gore of Oklahoma, who was blind
— Vidal read to him, was his guide, as a ten yr. old, unusual access to the corridors of power

3) grad. Phillips Exeter Acad. (where a supporter of America-First/isolationist)

4) (but) instead of going to college, enlisted in army → Aleutian Islands
— "That was educational"

5) from age 11 had been writing poems, stories.

6) in army, wrote first novel, Williwaw, publ. in 1946 @ age 21 (+ never went to college?)

7) in the beg., plan was to live in Wash. D.C. + hold office — didn't work out that way.

II

1) at 23, publ. third novel, The City + The Pillar
— first serious Amer. literary work to deal openly w/ homosexual themes

2) to earn a living: mystery novels
Hollywood: movies + TV

ask: re: turning pts; the writer's life
what does it take to face, + fill, the blank page

not what i'd call a conventional childhood — what wud u call it?

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1982: CA. dem primary for U.S. Senate
(vs. Jerry Brown)

Pt is not to recount or many works and/or achievements but how & why you did it.

he not been shy about making his views known — & he not shied from controversy

(1) Maya Lin / Sculptor, Architect / as a child: reclusive, solitary

(I) (1) what was w childhood like, growing up the daughter of Chinese immigrants in a small town in Ohio? what was w childhood like?

(2) How much of w family history were u aware of, + how has it affected you? influenced you?

(3) W mother was a poet + teacher of lit., w father a ceramic artist + college dean — how did tt influence you, teach you abt life + work?

(4) Youngest of 2 children - w older brother a poet — make it easier for u? or harder? how did he influence you?

(5) described urself as "nerdy" in high school? — what was high school like for a teen-age achiever who was also college courses — but also working @ McDonald's

(II) (6) In w dreams, did u ever imagine tt as a college undergrad, u'd win a national competition for designing a major american memorial — the V.N. memorial? how did tt come about?

(7) what influenced w design of the V.N. memorial?

(8) how does it reflect w philosophy of art + its place in society?

(9) the design is notable for its simplicity — is less more?

— whether in sculpture or architecture, what inspires you, what motivates you — what produces w designs?

(III) (10) The VN memorial became a controversial topic, so controversial w name wasn't mentioned @ the dedication ceremony.

— how did u at so young + presumably vulnerable an age, 21, handle all tht?

→

Maya Lin

Are there times when u retreat – step back – regain perspective?

III (10) – what hurt u most abt the experience?
– what did u learn from it? – the early fame, the controversy?
– how did it affect you?
– how did it/does it affect/affected ur work?

(11) Did it ever occur to you that you achieved too much too soon – that u might have peaked too soon?

(12) What are u striving for in ur work?

(13) what is art's role in society?
– use of research, of history, of context = not simply a matter of drawing something.
– what does it take to achieve something as an artist – in sculpture or architecture?

(14) Has ethnicity been a factor, or influence, in ur life?
– does it matter that u are a daughter of immigrants, + Chinese-American?

(15) How do u explain ur vision, the connection w/what u work –
– themes of peace, women, civil rts, the environment.

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(1) Cameron

(1) fired from first film, broke into editing room to cut the film his way (Piranha II for Corman)
(2) a master of special effect – The Abyss, The Terminator films – who made a love story the biggest money making film of all time – 11 Oscars & boat.
(3) a risk-taking (+ fast cars)
a perfectionist
a lover of confrontation + challenges } not known as a diplomat
(4) father an electrical engineer + strict disciplinarian
– grew up hating to be told what to do. } owner of an yacht
– grew up building things
(5) mathematician
(6) ad 15, saw 2001, a space odyssey – 10 times
(7) Fullerton College
– "didn't know if wanted to be a scientist or an artist"
– dropped out, married a waitress
(8) saw Star Wars – move he wanted to make, rose to the challenge + made films
(9) USC library – special effect
(10) Roger Corman – "escape then hated me" (Piranha II)
(11) alone + broke + angry in Rome

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(2) Cameron

(12) Terminator turned down by all the major studios
(13) are u a "visionary crackpot" – is that what it take to do what u do?
(14) do u have to be obsessed in our work to succeed, to achieve something?
(15) The crew's T-shirts:
Terminator 3 – rise with me